

**LEGISLATIVE SERVICES AGENCY
OFFICE OF FISCAL AND MANAGEMENT ANALYSIS**

200 W. Washington, Suite 301
Indianapolis, IN 46204
(317) 233-0696
<http://www.in.gov/legislative>

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

LS 6903

BILL NUMBER: HB 1205

NOTE PREPARED: Jan 4, 2008

BILL AMENDED:

SUBJECT: Joint Legal Custody.

FIRST AUTHOR: Rep. Pond

FIRST SPONSOR:

BILL STATUS: As Introduced

FUNDS AFFECTED: **GENERAL
DEDICATED
FEDERAL**

IMPACT: No Fiscal Impact

Summary of Legislation: This bill establishes a rebuttable presumption that an award of joint legal custody is in the best interest of a child. It requires a court, if a party seeks to rebut the presumption, to consider: (1) the fitness and suitability of each of the persons awarded joint legal custody; (2) the ability of the parents to communicate and advance the child's welfare; and (3) whether the child has established a close and beneficial relationship with both of the persons awarded joint legal custody. The bill repeals a provision containing language that is relocated within the Indiana Code. The bill also repeals provisions that provide that a: (1) mother of a child born out of wedlock has sole legal custody of the child; and (2) custodial parent may determine the child's upbringing.

Effective Date: July 1, 2008.

Explanation of State Expenditures:

Explanation of State Revenues:

Explanation of Local Expenditures:

Explanation of Local Revenues:

State Agencies Affected:

Local Agencies Affected:

Information Sources:

Fiscal Analyst: Bill Brumbach, 232-9559.